

105.1136 PT/Stevens

New Brunswick, N.J.
October 2, 1926

RE: William Stevens' clothing
sent to tailors.

I interviewed William Graelis and Austin J. Graelis at their residence, 98 Richardson St., New Brunswick, N.J. Both these boys are at present employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

I had considerable difficulty in getting a connected story from either of the two boys, for the reason that both their mother and father, who unfortunately were present, kept interrupting. The father kept insisting that, as the boys had been questioned by the State, they should not have anything to do with the defense, while the mother would chime in with her little part, in which she referred to Underwood as a liar when he told the newspapers that her boy Austin had said that Willie Stevens' clothes had blood stains on them.

The facts of the matter, as I was able to get a few words with the boys, are that at the time of the delivery of the black suit in question and the sending of the two suits to be cleaned, Austin J. Graelis was employed as a clerk by the firm of Lyons & Parker, while his younger brother was employed as a messenger for that firm.

Austin claims that when the suits came in they were simply put to one side to be sent to the cleaners. That all suits which Willie Stevens sent in were dirty and he did not care to handle them, but they would be set aside and turned over to the cleaner, as in this particular instance. In fact, there was nothing unusual on this occasion, nor does he know whether or not there was any blood stains on the suits. He claims that he never had made a statement to the effect that the clothes did have blood stains on them.

William claims that, while he was the messenger and was supposed to have gone on this particular errand, as a matter of fact, he had sent some other young fellow, who was working there at the time. Neither he nor Austin are able to recall who this other messenger was and they claim they so informed Simpson's men.

I will endeavor to talk with both these boys again when they are away from their home and feel that they will go further into the affair with me. They both seemed willing enough to tell what they know and endeavored to have their parents cease their interruptions.

Respectfully submitted,
David Thompson